



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DELTA BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 31ST FIELD ARTILLERY
5955 NE ROTHWELL STREET
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503-4478

February 21, 2015

Dear Families and Friends of Delta Battery,

Greetings from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, I'm pleased to write you again concerning your Soldier who has been here for Basic Combat Training. As promised in my previous letter, I have enclosed some items you may find useful while making arrangements to attend the upcoming graduation ceremony: a local area map, a temporary visitor pass, and an activities/events schedule.

As many of you may have noticed on our Facebook page the access to Fort Sill is an evolving issue. The temporary pass that is included in this packet was provided by Fort Sill as a way to mitigate issues that Families have experienced with access requirements. Please be aware this pass will only be good for one vehicle, and all occupants should present a state issued ID card with the pass. If there are any further changes I will post them to Facebook, and have your Soldier call with an update. If you intend to have multiple vehicles please continue to get access through the Fort Sill Visitor Control Center at (580)442-9603.

The final week here will be a very busy one for your Soldier. Equipment must be cleaned and turned back in for storage, graduation practice must be conducted, several important briefings must be attended, records, files, and documents must be finalized and checked, out processing must take place, and we must complete the actual graduation ceremony. There are some opportunities for you to see and visit with your Soldier in conjunction with graduation activities, but it is important you adhere to the time lines on the enclosed schedule. You will not be able to see your Soldier any than times designated.

I highly encourage you to attend both the Family Day activities and Graduation. The Family Day activities will be held on March 19, 2015 at 10:00am at Sheridan Theater on Fort Sill. It will consist of briefings and a demonstration of what your Soldier has been doing here in Basic Training. Please plan to arrive early to get seats, and make it through the gates.

Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, March 20, 2015 at 10:00am. We will conduct the ceremony at McMahon Memorial Auditorium in Lawton, please refer to the enclosed maps for assistance with directions. Taking photographs of the graduation ceremony is encouraged; however, due to Fort Sill's force protection policies we ask you to refrain from taking photographs of outside areas, buildings, structures, or entrances/exits to Fort Sill. I thank you in advance for your cooperation. You can also find information on

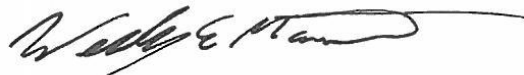
Ft. Sill and the Lawton area at the chamber of commerce website:
www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com.

Those Soldiers who have met all the graduation requirements and who are not pending any disciplinary action will be eligible to receive an off-post pass after family day activities from the conclusion of the briefing until 8 pm and an off-post pass after graduation up to one hour before they will depart on government transportation or 8 pm, whichever comes first. The graduation day pass depends entirely on government transportation availability. The information concerning the time and duration of the pass is subject to change due to time constraints or unit mission. While away from the unit area, I ask for your support in ensuring your Soldier acts responsibly. This pass is an earned privilege and it is very important soldiers return to the unit at the correct time, fully prepared to complete the graduation ceremony and other required duties. The Cadre will brief you and your Soldier on what he can and cannot do while on pass.

Please remember that every Soldier must meet all graduation requirements. There are a number of things which can delay a Soldier graduating from Basic Combat Training. The most common issues are related to physical fitness and performance on the Army Physical Fitness Test. Please continue to encourage your Soldier to push themselves to ensure they meet or exceed the standard.

If I can be of assistance in an urgent matter relating to your Soldier, please feel free to write or call me. If you need to reach the unit you may call (580) 442-0116, but I encourage you to first read through all information on the battery Facebook page first as we tend to post answers to common questions there. To reach our page search "D/1-31 Field Artillery" it should be the first one in the results. My e-mail address is wesley.e.martin9.mil@mail.mil. I look forward to meeting you and hope you are able to attend your Soldier's graduation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wesley E. Martin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wesley E. Martin
Captain, Field Artillery
Commanding